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TO: CIA - Mr. Helms

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Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

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# AIRGRAM

CIA

Approved For Release 2001/09/05 : CIA-RDP80T00294A000300070002-3

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FILE DESIGNATION

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A-109

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO :  
DEPT PASS:

FROM : U.S. Delegation SALT, GENEVA

DATE: December 21, 1972

SUBJECT : SALT MemCon

REF :

The attached SALT MemCon is to be reproduced and distributed in accordance with the memorandum to Mr. Miller, Deputy Executive Secretary, S/S, dated December 6, 1971 from Mr. Christopher, Special Assistant to the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

SMITH

Attachment:

Smith-Semenov Memcon  
December 18, 1972

EXEMPT-1

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SALDEL: DARENSBURGER *SNH for*

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12-18-72

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SALDEL: SNGRAYBEAL *SNH*

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION  
Approved For Release 2001/09/05 : CIA-RDP80T00294A000300070002-3  
U.S. SALT DELEGATION  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DATE: December 18, 1972

TIME: 12:15 - 12:30 p.m.

PLACE: USSR Mission, Geneva

SUBJECT: Smith-Semenov Post-Plenary Conversation

PARTICIPANTS: US USSR

Ambassador Gerard C. Smith  
Mr. Dimitri Arensburger,  
Interpreter

Deputy Foreign Minister V. S. Semenov  
Mr. Y. P. Klyukin,  
Interpreter

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#### US Statement

Minister Semenov felt that today's US statement was unusually polemical in tone and content for our discussions. Ambassador Smith replied that this had certainly not been intended, that he had tried to maintain a reasoned tone, but that he also considered it important to make a clear-cut statement on this important subject. Semenov thought that a quieter and more objective approach in our negotiations would contribute to achieving our goal. Such an approach is better than direct polemical statements, although he might be mistaken. Smith said that he had not intended to engage in polemics and that regardless of whether Semenov does or does not agree with the US statement, thorough reading of it should show that Smith had attempted to provide a reasoned argument. Semenov said he would certainly study the statement from the angle of view of the ongoing negotiations. Semenov asked whether he was correct in understanding that Ambassador Farley and Mr. Garthoff had visited Brussels. Smith replied in the affirmative, saying they had gone there on Friday. Semenov suggested that this might explain certain "shades" of today's US statement. Smith said that today's statement had been written before Farley's visit to Brussels.

#### Communique

Semenov said that he was under the impression that Mr. Grinevsky and Mr. Garthoff would be discussing the Communique today. He did not see any need for substantive changes to the existing text as worked out ad referendum. Smith said that the document was agreeable from the United States' point of view.

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Semenov noted that Mr. Smolin and Mr. Graybeal had not succeeded in ironing out some questions, which seemed insignificant to Semenov. For example, the old version was entitled Paragraphs for Inclusion in the Regulations for the Standing Consultative Commission. Now it was suggested to precede this with the words Joint Draft. Semenov did not consider it significant to add the word "draft" in the title in as much as it will quite evidently be a joint draft if initialed by the two Heads of Delegations ad referendum. It is clear that it would be a draft adopted by representatives of the Commission. Semenov did not think that this question was worth a wooden nickel. Semenov was not certain how or where such problems arose, perhaps they were legal "barbs." Semenov added that for him it was not a problem of accepting or rejecting the document. The difficulty is in having to once again report to Governments and raise questions which apparently had already been solved. Semenov understood the desire of the US Delegation to alter the wording of paragraph 8 (Semenov erroneously called it paragraph 7) concerning confidentiality. He understood this desire and would report it to his Government. But he hesitated to report on trifles since this could even demean his position as leader of his Delegation. Smith said he understood and noted that Smolin and Graybeal had scheduled a meeting at 11:00 a.m., concurrently with the Plenary. Smith had discussed the matter with Graybeal at some length this morning and did not consider the points to be earth shattering. He felt that the differences would be ironed out. Semenov noted that he does not object to reporting to his Government some changes in the Memorandum if they improve the text. Semenov thought that we should have adequate time before Thursday.

*DA for RG*  
Drafted by: DArensburger:  
December 18, 1972

*CS for RG*  
Approved by: Ambassador Gerard C. Smith

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